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Murder of Lovejoy

Boston Dec 30th 1837

GARRISON MSS.

Elizabeth Pease.

Dear friend,

Though in the greatest haste I cannot let this opportunity pass without thanking you for the beautiful articles for our fair which we received through Angelina C. Grimké. They were the means of bringing throngs to purchase, who would have otherwise passed by on the other side, nothing could have been more opportune than their arrival. Please to express to those to whom, with

yourself we are so deeply indebted, our warmest thanks in behalf of the slave. The address from the ladies of Darlington, signed by yourself & Miss Wrenys, has been published in all the Anti-Slavery periodicals, & has been the means of encouraging the hearts of thousands.

You will doubtless have seen the accounts of the murder of our devoted brother in the cause, E. P. Lovejoy, at Alton, in the State — the free State — of Illinois, for the crime of being an Abolitionist, & maintaining free discussion; but you can hardly realize the feelings of the abolitionists. — We feel that there is no law for us. Such an enormity occasioned a publick meeting

to be called here in Boston, but though
the requisition was signed first by
the Rev Dr Channing, than whom no
man among us has been more in-
fluential, the meeting was boisterous
& divided. It was distinctly stated by
him that slavery should not be dis-
cussed in the meeting; — but simply
resolutions against mob-violence. Yet
the meeting had very nearly been itself
a mob. But free discussion of the subject
of free discussion prevailed, & we went
home with a feeling of security for life
& property, for the present. But I fear,
when I see the strength of slavery here,
& how the institutions of the South are inter-
woven with our own free ones — not openly
indeed, but like the roots of giant trees
beneath the soil — I fear that abolition
will be resisted by the South, to her own des-
truction, & by the North till the last possible
day of grace. May God strengthen us to

Yours faithfully,
Wm Lloyd Garrison.

MS. A.1.2 v.41 p.27

Elizabeth Pease.

Feathams.

Darlington.

Thos Spencer